THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The efficacy of suitable type of rear view mirrors for locos has been evaluated recently and Railways have been directed to provide them on locomotives.

MoU between railtel and BSNL

1434. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Memorandum of undertaking (MoU) has been signed between the Rail Tel Corporation of India (Rail Tel) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) for sharing bandwidth and other telecommunications infrastructure; and

(b) if so, the details of the communication network proposed to be established with this agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Memorandum of Undertaking (MoU) signed between Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Rail Tel Corporation of India Limited (Rail Tel) relates to exploring new business opportunities to take advantage of the changing scenario in the country in telecommunication field. BSNL & Rail Tel have agreed to utilise their synergies, infrastructure and services for this purpose. There is no proposal, as such, to establish any new communication network. BSNL, however, may use Rail Tel's OFC infrastructure dropped at stations for providing rural telephony and continuous coverage of their Cell One mobile phones along the track. BSNL may also offer last mile and interconnection to Rail Tel for their various requirements including International Long Distance (ILD) & National Long Distance (NLD) operations.